GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:372
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Tea Production
Nishank Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of tea in the country especially in the Himalayan States during the last three years, State/UT-wise including Uttarakhand;

(b) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take steps to increase the production of tea in the Himalayan region;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken by the Government to promote research work in the field of tea production; and

(d) whether agreements have been signed with various universities in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*****

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.372(H) FOR ANSWER ON 12th DECEMBER, 2016 REGARDING "TEA PRODUCTION"

(a): Total production of tea in the country, including Himalayan states and Uttarakhand during last three years are given in the following Table:
(In million kg)

STATE	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Assam	629.05	606.80	652.95
West Bengal	312.10	324.26	329.70
Tamil Nadu	174.71	167.42	161.49
Kerala	63.48	67.20	56.63
Arunachal	10.85	11.56	11.36
Tripura	9.15	9.03	8.96
Karnataka	5.52	6.74	6.46
Bihar	2.43	2.72	4.02
Himachal	0.85	0.84	0.89
Meghalaya	0.41	0.47	0.31
Nagaland	0.07	0.01	0.18
Uttarakhand	0.06	0.05	0.11
Sikkim	0.10	0.08	0.08
Total=	1208.78	1197.18	1233.14

(b) to (d): In order to increase the production of tea in all the tea growing regions of the Country including the tea growing belt of the Himalayan region, the "Tea Development & Promotion Scheme" is being implemented by the Tea Board. The main activities of the Scheme, inter alia, includes replantation, rejuvenation, field mechanization, factory modernization, quality certification and workers welfare. Besides, there is provision of Special Packages for Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) and non traditional areas of the North Eastern States including Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. Tea Board has approved a proposal of Uttarakhand Tea Development Board of the State Government for raising of nursery.
Tea Board regularly undertakes activities aimed at promoting research in association with research institutions such as Tea Research Association (TRA), Tea Research Foundation (TRF) of United Planters' Association of Southern India (UPASI) and others.

Though no agreement has been signed so far with any universities, integrated research projects on improved planting material with higher productivity and quality, cost effective pest management, mechanisation of farm operation, etc. have been formulated in cooperation with reputed research and development institutes and universities, e.g. Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur; Assam Agricultural University, IIT- Kharagpur etc. for the benefit of the Tea industry.

****